

intent of H.R. 2617 has been fully accomplished through the NDAA as last year's FY20 NDAA required DoD to input any OEH hazards exposure into servicemembers' records while deployed so it is tracked throughout their career and into veteran status.

Overall, I am proud of the Readiness Subcommittee's contribution to this year's bill and would like to thank the Readiness staff, Brian Garrett, Jeanine Womble, Melanie Harris, Jay Vallario, John Muller, Dave Sienicki, and Sean Falvey, and my personal staff, Betsy Thompson, Marcus Jones, and Danusia Hubah, for their tireless work. Marcus and Danusia will be departing the Hill after next week, and I would like to personally thank them for their hard work and sharing their expertise with us this past year. Both Marcus and Danusia have been invaluable members of my staff and we will miss them dearly.

This bill helps advance our military's near-term readiness goals and drives the Department to plan for and take action against long-term threats. The conference report also authorizes funding that will strengthen DOD and the country's ability to respond to potential COVID-19 resurgence and other infectious diseases in the future. With that, I urge my colleagues to support the FY21 NDAA.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, section 6308 enhances U.S. law enforcement's ability to access international bank records to help better ensure financial crimes are investigated. I am supportive of this new and necessary provision. This new authority allows the Departments of Treasury and Justice to issue subpoenas requiring production of records relating to accounts held by banks outside of the United States. This new authority would create a secondary mechanism for seeking discovery from foreign banks separate from the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties ("MLATs") or other multilateral or bilateral agreements the United States currently maintains with many foreign governments for this purpose. As the Departments of Justice and Treasury implement Section 6308, I encourage them only to use this new authority where a foreign bank operates in a jurisdiction as to which no MLAT or other information-sharing agreement exists or where the relevant foreign government has not satisfied its obligations under an MLAT or other information-sharing agreement.

Many foreign countries restrict banks operating in their jurisdictions from sharing their customers' financial or personally identifiable information ("PII"). As a result, subpoenas issued under section 6308 may place foreign banks in the difficult position of either violating home country law or being in contempt for failure to comply with a subpoena issued by the United States government. As a result, I believe it is appropriate for the Departments of Justice and Treasury to take into consideration conflict of laws situations to achieve the purposes of Section 6308 while also maintaining a respect for home country requirements.

Finally, I encourage the Departments of Treasury and Justice to issue regulations establishing appropriate protocols to ensure that the authority granted under section 6308 does not supersede or supplant existing MLATs or other multilateral or bilateral agreements between the United States and the relevant foreign government that are available for obtaining records from a foreign bank.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Conference Report for H.R. 6395,

the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021. This bill contains many important provisions that should become law, but unfortunately those laudable policies are outweighed by the staggering cost and I cannot support the bill as a whole.

I am grateful for the Conferees' work to include language increasing treatment and benefits for veterans by expanding the types of diseases that are presumed connected with exposure to Agent Orange. I also strongly support the pay increase for our troops, the removal of names and symbols associated with the racist legacy of the Confederacy, and the bolstering of paid parental leave policies across the federal government. I commend Chairman SMITH for his ongoing work to advance legislation that improves the military's prevention of sexual assault and support for survivors, takes encouraging steps to address climate change, and prevents the misuse of taxpayer money on a wasteful border wall. In response to authoritarian tactics by federal agents in Portland, Oregon, and elsewhere, the Chairman and House Conferees also achieved bipartisan support for a policy I championed requiring that any federal forces responding to a protest or civil disturbance by clearly identifiable.

I cannot ignore, however, the unprecedented amount of military spending that this legislation would authorize. Amid a national crisis precipitated by a global pandemic, voting to allow billions of dollars to be spent on weapons is unjustifiable when our communities desperately need food and housing security, access to childcare, affordable health care, and small business support. We must not accept the notion that annual increases in defense spending are somehow inevitable and can be rationalized as modest when adding just one percent costs billions of dollars that should instead be invested domestically in schools or infrastructure.

I do not take this vote lightly and my commitment to providing for our servicemembers remains steadfast. It is a complex and challenging task to responsibly fund our national defense, but I am confident that we can maintain adequate security while reining in the immense and ever-increasing sums that endlessly pour into the military-industrial complex. I look forward to continued engagement with my colleagues as we address these difficult issues.

□ 1400

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, December 3, 2020, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the adoption of the conference report.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 965, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 8, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 8, 2020, at 11:44 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to Relative to the death of the Honorable Roger William Jepsen, former United States Senator for the State of Iowa S. Res. 795.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 1503.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4761.

That the Senate passed with amendments H.R. 5273.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCCOLLUM). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2020

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1811) to make technical corrections to the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1811

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Water Resources Development Act of 2020".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Secretary defined.

TITLE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 101. Budgetary treatment expansion and adjustment for the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.
Sec. 102. Authorization of appropriations for navigation.
Sec. 103. Annual report to Congress on the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.
Sec. 104. Additional measures at donor ports and energy transfer ports.
Sec. 105. Construction of water resources development projects by non-Federal interests.